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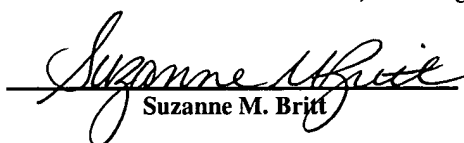
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Geoffrey D. Bootle
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Suzanne M. Britt

Box: AMENDMENT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action dated February 6, 2004, Applicants present the amendments and remarks beginning on the following page in complete response thereto. Applicants' amended claims are now in condition for allowance or, alternatively, serve to present the claims in better form for consideration on appeal. No new matter is added, and each of the amendments finds full support in the claims, specification, or drawings as filed. As such, reconsideration of the rejections in light of the amendments and arguments contained in this reply is respectfully requested. Early and favorable action is further requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.